

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

What is claim is:

1. A sheet processing apparatus for folding a sheet bundle at a predetermined position, comprising:

paired rotating bodies for folding said sheet bundle having nip portions;

pressing means arranged to associate with the paired rotating bodies for pressing the predetermined position of said sheet bundle into the nip portions of the paired rotating bodies; and

means connected to the paired rotation bodies for providing rotation to the paired rotating bodies so that a pulling force of the rotating bodies to pull the sheet bundle pressed into the nip portions of the rotating bodies has an amount which does not separate a sheet of said sheet bundle contacting the rotating bodies from subsequent sheets in the sheet bundle when pulling the sheet bundle.

2. A sheet processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the paired rotating bodies has an outer surface with a reduced friction coefficient with respect to a surface of the other of the paired rotating bodies so that the pulling force does not cause the sheet contacting the rotating bodies to separate from the other sheets.

3. A sheet processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said at least one of the paired rotating bodies has an outer surface extending along a direction of a rotating shaft thereof, said outer surface having a high friction coefficient region and a low friction coefficient region lower than the high friction coefficient region.

4. A sheet processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said paired rotating bodies have said high and low friction coefficient regions, the high friction coefficient region on said one rotating body being narrower than the high friction coefficient region on said other rotating body.

5. A sheet processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein one of said rotating bodies is positioned lower than the other of said rotating bodies of said paired rotating bodies.

6. An image forming apparatus comprising: an image forming unit and said sheet processing apparatus according to claim 1 disposed in the image forming unit, said sheet processing apparatus folding at a predetermined position a sheet bundle formed with images thereupon by said image forming unit.